

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/CCT RPMYERS:NWH

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AF/E:RSBARRETT (DRAFT)

M/MED - DR. DUSTIN (DRAFT)

DOD/ISA: MAJ NAFTZINGER

S/S-O: DLMACK

S/PRS:LFEENEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 245481

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, US

SUBJECT:RELEASE OF KAGNEW FOUR

REF: SECDEF 1760

1. IN RECENT CABLE TO USCINCEUR, CLEARED WITH STATE, DEFENSE DEPARTMENT MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENT CONCERNING SCENARIO FOR RELEASE OF ELF HOSTAGES STRICKLAND AND BOWIDOWICZ. "WE EXPECT THEM TO BE IN THE CARE OF THE LOCAL U.S. EMBASSY FOR A BRIEF INITIAL PERIOD DURING WHICH THEY WOULD RECEIVE A MEDICAL CHECK AND REST, IF NECESSARY, CONFIDENTIAL

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PRIOR TO FURTHER TRAVEL. USCINCEUR WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR

COORDINATION OF SUBSEQUENT ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR BOWIDOWICZ AND STRICKLAND TO INCLUDE LIAISON WITH APPROPRIATE U.S. EMBASSIES, IN-THEATER TRANSPORTATION AND MEDICAL CARE, ARRANGEMENTS FOR EFFECTING REUNION WITH FAMILIES AND TRANSPORTATION OUT OF THEATER IF APPLICABLE. IN GENERAL, AN EARLY REUNION WITH FAMILY, THROUGH MEDICAL EXAM AND DEBRIEFING IN A QUIET, CONTROLLED ATMOSPHERE ARE RECOMMENDED."

2. SHOULD RELEASE OF CISCO II AND/OR KAGNEW II OCCUR, OR APPEAR IMMINENT, EMBASSY RESPONSIBLE FOR INITIAL CONTACT WITH RELEASEES -- PROBABLY AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM -- SHOULD

IMMEDIATELY REQUEST THE SERVICES OF REGIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER, DR. STUART SCHEER, AMEMBASSY TUNIS, TO PROVIDE INITIAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION/DEBRIEFING

WE HAVE FOUND IN PRIOR HOSTAGE INCIDENTS, INCLUDING COLONEL MORGAN CASE IN BEIRUT, THAT PRESENCE OF A DOCTOR EXPERIENCED IN DEALING WITH RELEASED HOSTAGES AND THEIR FAMILIES CAN BE OF GREAT VALUE. DR. SCHEER'S CAPABILITIES AND INTEREST IN THIS AREA HAVE BEEN CLEARLY ESTABLISHED.

3. FUNDS FOR DR. SCHEER'S TRAVEL FROM TUNIS AND RETURN ARE AVAILABLE FROM S/CCT; THEY NEED ONLY TO BE REQUESTED. ADDITIONAL FUNDS COULD ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR SCHEER TO ACCOMPANY USG RELEASEES FROM POINT OF RELEASE TO LOCATION WHERE MILITARY WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM.

4. WE EXPECT CISCO REPRESENTATIVES TO HANDLE ALL ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS RELATING TO THEIR EMPLOYEES WHEN RELEASED BY ELF/PLF. HOWEVER, SHOULD ALL FOUR BE RELEASED TOGETHER AND CISCO REP REQUEST SCHEER'S PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR HARRELL AND CAMPBELL, SCHEER SHOULD ACCEPT IF HIS SCHEDULE PERMITS.

5. PRESS STATEMENTS BY US AGENCIES ON RELEASE OF CAPTIVES WILL BE DETERMINED BY WASHINGTON IN LIGHT OF EMBASSY CONFIDENTIAL

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FURNISHED INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS, PER A-775. EMBASSIES SHOULD ENDEAVOR COORDINATE COMPATIBLE PRESS HANDLING IN ADVANCE WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS. KISSINGER

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